GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3937
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006
RELAXING VISA RULES BY ARAB COUNTRIES
Deora Shri Milind Murli;Radhakrishnan Shri Varkala;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has urged the Arab countries to relax their visa rules for the benefit of Indian businessmen;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether requests for multi-entry and long term visas were also made; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Arab Countries in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) The Government has been taking up the issue of liberalization of visa regimes including grant of multiple entry and long-term visas to Indian businessmen with Arab countries.

(d) Several of these countries have indicated their willingness to favourably consider the proposal.